United Nations A/C.5/57/L.29

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
27 November 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 112
Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan,[1]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note with concern* of the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the current condition of the United Nations Headquarters complex and concurs with the Secretary-General that a decision on viable solutions must be made to ameliorate those conditions;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan;[1]

3. *Also takes note* of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] and endorses the observations and recommendations contained therein, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Welcomes with appreciation* the offer of support from the City and State of New York and acknowledges their efforts to make possible the implementation of the capital master plan;

Scope of the capital master plan

5. *Decides* to implement the capital master plan on the basis of the baseline scope under the first approach to phasing and swing space, with a projected

[1] A/57/285.
[2] A/57/7/Add.4.

02-71366 (E) 021202

construction budget of $1,049 million,[3] a variance of plus or minus 10 per cent, that is, a range currently estimated at $944.1 to $1,153.9 million, a proposed construction start date of October 2004 and a construction duration of five years;

6. *Notes* that the projected budget should be increased by up to $144 million, should the Assembly decide to implement any of the scope options referred to in operative paragraph 11 below;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to proceed with the remaining design phases of design development and construction documentation, bearing in mind the provisions set out below;

Baseline scope

8. *Approves* the implementation of the baseline scope as amended by the exclusion of the proposed new large conference room and multi-function hall in the parking garage;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session plans for the three additional conference rooms foreseen in the baseline scope, including the information used to determine the need for such additional space and the size of each room;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in these plans viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms, with a view to ensuring occupationally healthy conditions;

Scope options

11. *Approves* the inclusion in the design documents of the proposed scope options for security, redundancy and contingency and sustainability within the design work for the capital master plan, without prejudice to the final decision to be made by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session with regard to the scope options to be included, and also approves the contingency plans for retaining the proposed new large conference room and multi-function hall in the parking garage of the United Nations Headquarters complex;

Swing space

12. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General, in line with the first approach to phasing and swing space, to complete the negotiations with the City of New York for the construction and lease purchase of a new United Nations consolidated building on a section of the Robert Moses Playground, including the cost of providing alternative park amenities for the community to compensate for the loss of part of the playground;

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[3] $1,049 million with a variance of plus or minus 10 per cent assuming a construction start date of October 2004 and reflecting a baseline scope estimate of $991 million, a swing space estimate of $96 million, a decrease of $17 million in respect of previously approved security measures, a decrease of $57 million in respect of the exclusion of a new large conference room and multi-function hall in the existing complex and the addition of $36 million in respect of the inclusion of the replacement of the curtain wall.

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a permanent large conference room and a permanent multi-function hall in a design of the new United Nations consolidated building;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in addressing the design of the United Nations consolidated building, the necessary security and environmental parameters are respected;

15. *Approves*, in principle, the approach of the Secretary-General that the acquisition of the United Nations consolidated building will be made through a lease purchase agreement with the United Nations upon the expiry of which the building and the land on which it stands would be owned by the United Nations;

Parking

16. *Takes note with concern* of the existing difficulties with regard to the availability of parking at the United Nations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study all viable options to ensure sufficient parking spaces so as to meet existing and future needs of diplomatic missions and Secretariat staff within the projected overall budget of the capital master plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session in the context of its consideration of the capital master plan;

Management and oversight

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to put in place strict control standards for all phases of the plan prior to and during its implementation, defining the precise refurbishment work to be done and the technical results to be achieved so as to ensure that there are no cost overruns associated with the overall project, that the project is completed successfully within the envisaged time frame and budget and within the agreed technical specifications, that there are financial penalties for contractors in the case of non-respect of deadlines and that there is a guarantee that will ensure the long-term quality of the work undertaken;

19. *Concurs* with the intention of the Secretary-General to establish an independent and impartial advisory board, as outlined in paragraph 66 of his report,[1] and requests him, in establishing the board, to reflect wide geographical representation;

20. *Takes note* of the information included in paragraph 75 of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and of the fact that the Board of Auditors, in order to avoid a conflict of interest, did not assume responsibility for the validation of initial project costs;

21. *Stresses* in this regard the importance, as a matter of transparency, for the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on such situations;

22. *Also stresses* the importance of oversight with respect to the development and implementation of the capital master plan, and requests the Board of Auditors and all other relevant oversight bodies to initiate immediate oversight activities and to report annually thereon to the General Assembly;

23. *Takes note* of annexes II and III to the report of the Secretary-General[1] and requests the Secretary-General to issue a corrigendum that will reflect the

current organizational structure of the Secretariat for managing the capital master plan both at present and over the course of its implementation;

Appropriation and funding

24. *Decides* that a special account for the capital master plan should be established and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements in this regard, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 6.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

25. *Decides* to appropriate $25.5 million to the special account for the capital master plan for the biennium 2002-2003, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on the scale of assessments applicable for the biennium 2002-2003, for design and related project management and management of pre-construction services for the baseline scope and scope options;

26. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments of up to $26 million for the biennium 2004-2005 to provide for the remaining work, related project management and management of pre-construction services for the baseline scope and scope options;

27. *Welcomes* the preparedness of the Secretary-General to initiate a campaign to encourage and secure private donations;

28. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing efforts to secure financial resources from the public and private sectors for upgrading facilities and equipment, including the participation of private companies in infrastructural improvements, where such participation has no financial implications for the Organization, and also reaffirms that the acceptance of any donation should conform to the international and intergovernmental character of the Organization and should be in full compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on:

(a) The status of possible funding arrangements, including a financial package to be provided by the host country;

(b) Other contributions, and on his efforts to secure such contributions from public and private sources;

(c) All aspects of the outcome of negotiations with the City and State of New York;

(d) The progress of the design work;

Procurement

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General, considering the need to continue to explore ways to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to take the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 54/14 of 29 October 1999 and 55/247 of 12 April 2001 on procurement reform fully into consideration in the implementation of the capital master plan;

31. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it on an annual basis on the awarding of contracts for procurement for the capital master plan;

Final provisions

32. *Decides* that none of the provisions of the present resolution, with the exception of paragraphs 24 to 26 and all requested design specifications, are binding in the event that the City and State of New York cannot fulfil their commitments to the capital master plan and if the host country does not offer a financing package to cover the project, described in operative paragraph 5 above;

33. *Decides* to revert to the issue of the financing of the capital master plan at its fifty-eighth session;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it annual progress reports on the implementation of the capital master plan.